

**Cultural and Historic Affairs Committee
Meeting Minutes
September 17, 2013**

The Bethany Beach Cultural and Historic Affairs Committee held a meeting at 1:00 p.m. on Tuesday, September 17, 2013 in the Bethany Beach Town Meeting Room, 214 Garfield Parkway, Bethany Beach, DE 19930.

Members present: Carol Olmstead, who presided; Laren Hughes; Jan Kinsella; Theo Loppatto; Mary Lou Urquhart; and Margaret Young.

Absent member: Mary Lou McNerney

Also present: Lindsey Good, Administrative Secretary; Dale Dunn, Museum docent.

Call to Order

Ms. Olmstead called the meeting to order at 1:06 p.m.

Approval of Minutes from July 22, 2013

After a few changes, Ms. Young made a motion to approve the minutes dated July 22, 2013. The motion was seconded by Ms. Loppatto and unanimously approved.

Announcements

Ms. Olmstead reported that “Periers Day” on July 27th was a successful and enjoyable event. She added that there are videos and photos from the event available on the Town’s website. The Committee thanked Ms. Hughes for all of her great ideas and hard work towards “Periers Day”.

The Seaside Craft Show Committee has already begun meeting to discuss the plans for the Craft Show taking place in June 2014. The application will be mailed out in October, and it will also be available on the Town’s website. The deadline to submit the application is in February. This year will be the 10th annual Seaside Craft Show.

Update on Donated Sculpture

Review Wording for Plaque

Ms. Olmstead stated that the sculpture has been delivered, and it is displayed on the edge of the WiFi Park next to the Town Hall facing the sidewalk. The next step is for the Committee to have a bronze plaque made.

Ms. Olmstead distributed the drafted wording to be displayed on the plaque and the following changes were made by the Committee:

“TAKING FLIGHT”

Artist Dennis Smith

Gift of <from> the Worthington Family,

John, Kris, Spencer, Luke, Kelly & Abby

The word “artist” was discussed, and Ms. Olmstead is going to contact Mr. Worthington to ask if it should be replaced with “sculpturist”. She will then e-mail him the final wording. The plaque will be four (4) by seven (7) inches.

The Committee members acknowledged that the sculpture is beautiful.

Discussion Regarding Delaware Historical Society 150th Anniversary

Ms. Olmstead explained that she was contacted by a representative from the Delaware Historical Society regarding an event they are starting to plan for next year in Wilmington for its 150th Anniversary. At this time, there is not yet a lot of information available on the event, but the society is trying to reach out to people to gain their interest. She also would like the Committee to join as a member.

Ms. Olmstead said that she hopes more information will be available next month, and then the Committee will be able to discuss the opportunity further. She will add the item on next month’s agenda.

Discussion Regarding Ongoing Projects

Ms. Olmstead emphasized that summer is a very busy time for the Committee and it is difficult to find time to work on the ongoing projects, but now the summer is almost over they can find time to meet and move forward with the projects. She asked the Committee members to let her know when they can meet to discuss the following ongoing projects:

- Labels for the pictures hanging on the walls in the Town Hall.
- Newspaper article album.
- Note cards.

Ms. Olmstead explained that the labels for the pictures hanging on the wall are very difficult to find in stores. Ms. Loppatto noted that she found them available for purchase online, but it is hard to tell exactly what they look like.

Ms. Olmstead stated that she favors the idea that was mentioned at a prior meeting to sell items in the lobby of the Town Hall. She added that once the Oral History Project is completed, they can also sell copies of the DVD.

Discussion on Cultural Evening with Tom Ryan

Speaker Tom Ryan will be presenting the topic “Wives of Generals of the Civil War” at the Cultural Event on October 29th at 7:00 p.m. The Committee discussed the following plans that need to be done in preparation for the event:

- Advertise poster on the event in the local newspapers during the week before. It will be posted in the Wave Newspaper on October 23rd and in the Coastal Point on October 25th. Ms. Hughes will use the ad that she has already created for the event.
- The advertisement will be posted at the five (5) places around Town (Town Hall, PNC Bank, Bandstand, Post Office, and South Coastal Library).
- Ms. Loppatto, Ms. Urquhart and Ms. Kinsella will assist with getting the refreshments, which will be hot cider, candy corn, and spice/pumpkin cookies.
- Ms. Olmstead will make sure that napkins and cups are available.
- Ms. Hughes will ask the appropriate staff to set up the table for refreshments and the meeting room for at least fifty (50) people.
- Ms. Hughes will verify with Tom Ryan the cost of providing the presentation and to see what his video needs are.

Ms. Olmstead stated that based on prior discussions at Committee meeting, there will only be two Cultural Events scheduled for this year.

Request Regarding Historical Plaque

Ms. Olmstead explained that it has been addressed that there is a grammatical error on the plaque on the Seaside Inn at the end of the boardwalk regarding the spelling of the text “its”. She added that the plaque was installed a couple years ago.

Ms. Young stated that a couple of comments regarding the error have been received. Ms. Olmstead added that this issue was brought to the attention of the Town Council but there was not much interest to fix it at that time. However, there was recently a very negative letter sent to the Town from a resident regarding the wording of the plaque and the religious wording on the display boards in the Museum. The Committee was not involved with ordering the display boards in the Museum, but it was involved with creating the plaque on the boardwalk.

Ms. Olmstead said that the cost of replacing the plaque to correct the error would be \$1,200. She explained that this item will be on the next agenda to be discussed at the next Town Council Workshop, and asked the Committee members whether they would want to fix the plaque or wait to see what to see if Council will take action.

The majority of the members felt that Town Council should discuss this issue before CHAC moves forward with it.

Ms. Loppatto made a motion to delay making a decision regarding fixing the error on the plaque until Town Council addresses the issue. Ms. Urquhart seconded the motion and it was approved with a 4-1 vote (Ms. Young opposed).

View Oral History Video

Ms. Hughes reported her progress on the Oral History Project. She explained that she edited all of the interviews except for four (4) of them. She has made a list of the photos that she would like to obtain to be added. Ms. Olmstead said that if Ms. Hughes provides her with the list of photos, she can check to see if the Committee already has them. Ms. Hughes added that she also would appreciate any song suggestions to be incorporated.

The Committee viewed the a part of the video that Ms. Hughes has completed so far, and they expressed that they are very happy with it.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 3:12 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for October 8th, 2013 at 1:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Lindsey Good, CMC
Administrative Secretary